



**SCOTTISH CITIES RESEARCH NETWORK – THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2014**

**The Lighthouse, Glasgow, Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

## **‘DOES CITY AUTONOMY MATTER? CITY AND REGIONAL RECOVERY OUTSIDE THE GREATER SOUTHEAST’**

09.30	Registration and coffee
10.00	<i>Welcome and Introduction</i> Prof Donald Houston, Scottish Cities Knowledge Centre, University of Glasgow
10.10	<i>Are cities really the motors of regional economic growth?</i> Prof Steve Fothergill, Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research, Sheffield Hallam University <i>Questions and Answers</i>
10.45	Open-floor discussion <i>Delivering city and regional prosperity outside the greater southeast:</i> – <i>what needs to change?</i> – <i>what’s stopping that change?</i> – <i>what don’t we know that we need to know?</i> Chair: Prof Donald Houston, Scottish Cities Knowledge Centre, University of Glasgow
11.15	Coffee
11.30	<i>Research visions:</i> Chair and Introduction: Prof Ken Gibb, Policy Scotland, University of Glasgow Prof Glenn Bramley, Inst. for Social Policy, Housing, Env. and Real Estate, Heriot Watt University Dr Alex Schafron, School of Geography, University of Leeds Prof Richard Evans, European Institute for Urban Affairs, Liverpool John Moores University Dr Phil Boland, School of Planning, Architecture and Civil Eng, Queen’s University Belfast TBC, Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research, Sheffield Hallam University TBC, Urban Studies, University of Glasgow Prof Alan Harding, Heseltine Institute for Public Policy and Practice, University of Liverpool Prof Cecilia Wong, Centre for Urban Policy Studies, University of Manchester Prof Peter O’Brien, Centre for Urban and Regional Dev. Studies, University of Newcastle TBC, Department of Town and Regional Planning, University of Sheffield
13.00	Lunch

14.00	Open-floor discussion and break-out sessions: <i>How can the policy agenda for cities and regions be influenced over the next 10 years?</i> <i>Opportunities and ways forward</i> Chair: Prof Iain Docherty, Scottish Cities Knowledge Centre, University of Glasgow
15.30	Coffee and networking
16.00	Close

This conference aims to consider the role of smaller cities and regions in national economic growth. The conference also explores the opportunities presented by the prospect of greater devolution of powers to regions and cities across the UK.

It is hoped that this event will lead to a North British Urban Research Network (N-BURN) or similar, in order to build cross-border and inter-city collaboration and learning within the UK – involving both the ‘academic’ and ‘policy’ communities.

*Growth and productivity gains over the last 20 years in London and the greater SE have been spectacular. This has fuelled claims about the crucial role of large cities in economic growth. While acknowledging the potential economic benefits of city size and ‘agglomeration’, the premise of this conference is that more important in regions outside of the greater SE are: the broader regional spatial economy; industrial and skills policies; civil and social infrastructure; city and regional governance; and city specialisation.*